

# St Mary's News



w/c 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## Message from the Headteacher

What a busy week we had last week. Thank you to all parents who completed the Parent View survey or emailed comments into school for the HMI – Ofsted team. The team pass on thanks to all parents who shared their views of our school. There is a long process of quality assurance for all Ofsted inspections, and we expect the outcome to be made public before the end of term.

The feast of Christ the King was celebrated in churches this weekend, and we had our very own celebration mass in school on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Thank you to Fr John for leading this celebration and reminding us of the words of St Pope John Paul II: ***‘Young people are the church of today, the hope of tomorrow.’***



## The Ridiculous Rhyme Show

The children were treated to a performance of The Ridiculous Rhyme Show last Tuesday. The Ridiculous Rhyme Show was written and developed by Cbeebies presenters Joe Chambers and Andrew Crawford. The show was written to engage a primary school aged audience using interactive performance and comedy. It encourages children to enjoy literacy through creative word play which can be carried back into the classroom. The children had a fabulous time, listening to and coming up with their own rhyming words, playing competitions and generally laughing lots at the silliness! Thank you to Rhyme Rocket for a fabulous show.



**At present, we have not had half the voluntary contributions to cover the cost, we are short by £903.50 to pay for this inspiring event. If you have omitted to do this and are able to, please contribute via [scopay.com](https://scopay.com)**

## Important Dates

Monday 25th November	<b>Panto (all years)</b> please contribute £2 via scopay
Tuesday 26th November 13:15	<b>Open Tour of the School for prospective parents</b>
Tuesday 26th November 15:30	<b>Open Book</b> - parents/carers invited to come into class to look at their children's books
Tuesday 10th December 9:00	<b>Year 1 Nativity</b>
Tuesday 10th December 14:00	<b>Year 2 Nativity</b>
Wednesday 11th December	<b>Christmas school lunch</b> (please order on scopay min 1 week prior)
Thursday 12th December 14:00	<b>Year R Nativity</b>

Friday 13th December 15:00	<b>Carols Around the Tree</b> (including PTA tombola)
Wednesday 18th December 1:50-2:50	<b>Christmas tea and chat</b> – retired members of the school & church community, invite only.
Thursday 19th December 9:00	<b>KS2 Carol Service</b>
23rd December - 3rd January	<b>Christmas Break</b>
Friday 10th January 9:00	<b>Whole School Mass (Epiphany)</b> Year 1-6 at Church
Friday 10th January - 7th February	<b>Class 4La swimming lessons</b>
Friday 17th January 09:00	<b>Year 5 Mass</b> - parents invited to attend at school 9am
Thursday 6th February - 14:30	<b>Year 2 Liturgy</b> (parents invited to attend)

## Announcements

### Empty Tubs Please!



### Bring your empty chocolate/sweets/cracker tubs into school!

We have been asked if we can collect empty plastic tubs to help the Tub2Pub Greene King recycling scheme.

Tubs can be handed into the school office.

Money raised from the recycled plastic is donated to its partner Macmillan Cancer Support, helping the charity continue to support people living with cancer.

### Music Tuition Available

We have spaces become available if children would like to have guitar or ukelele lessons starting after Christmas. The cost is £70 per term, please contact the school office if you are interested.

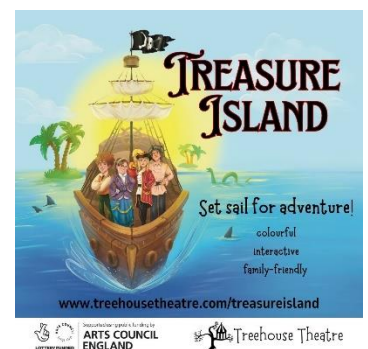


## Reminders

### Curriculum Enhancements

Our pupils are so lucky at St Mary's School as the staff work hard to arrange so many enhancements to their learning experience. Over the past two weeks they have benefited from the BBC workshop to enhance oracy and language and this week the live performance by Tree House Theatre Group. These events also serve to inspire future careers for our pupils.

Please help us continue organising events. We can only do this with parents/carers contributions. You will find this on **scopay** called '**2024-2025 Panto (all years)**' Thank you.



## Be Safe

### KOOTH - Self Harm

Self-harm is one of the top presenting issues for young people from the South-West who seek support from Kooth. There are lots of coping strategies on their website: <https://www.kooth.com>



## Make your own coping box

Try using items around the house to help soothe or distract your child during difficult moments. Self sooth/coping boxes can help children get to a calmer place so there is an opportunity to think about options and choose a healthier way of coping.

### Step 1

Find a box of any shape or size. E.g. an old shoe box. Your child can decorate it with colours, pictures or quotes that are important to them.

### Step 2

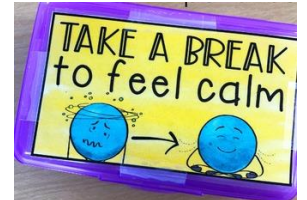
Pick some things your child might like to look at, smell, touch or hear to go in the box or allow them to choose eg a teddy, a special photo, a favourite song list.

### Step 3

Use the items in the box for as long as needed when things feel difficult, e.g. listen to the music, hug the teddy, look at the photo.

### Step 4

Notice any changes in the way your child feels whilst using the box and write them down or encourage them to talk about their feelings before and after opening the box.



## Local support from BCP

- **'Behaviours that Challenge Us'** (relevant to children aged 5-11 only). please see the flyer attached for a free 2 hour 'Behaviours that Challenge Us' parent information session running in Dorset.
- **"An Introduction to Autism & Neurodiversity for Parents"**. Available to book by emailing [ltsa@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk](mailto:ltsa@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk) - please see attached details
- **"The Umbrella Group"** are a parent led support group, for parents of children and young adults with ASD which has been running for 11 years. Please see attached information about their meetings planned from November 2024 to July 2025.

## Be Here, be Ready

Another "thank you" is due this week as our attendance for the whole school is at the Government's target figure.

We are seeing an increase in respiratory issues and sore throats, so here are some tips to minimise spread throughout your household:

- Keeping hydrated in all weather is helpful and keeps mucus moving as we all know how horrible and difficult it is for children when they are congested
- Teaching your child to keep their hands clean and away from their nose and mouth is useful
- Teaching your child to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and cough into their inside elbow.

## Spotlight

### Handwriting

We encourage all children to write in a legible and neat style. In Year R and Year 1 the pupils secure their early letter formation and by Year 2 most children are moving on from printing individual letters to our cursive script.



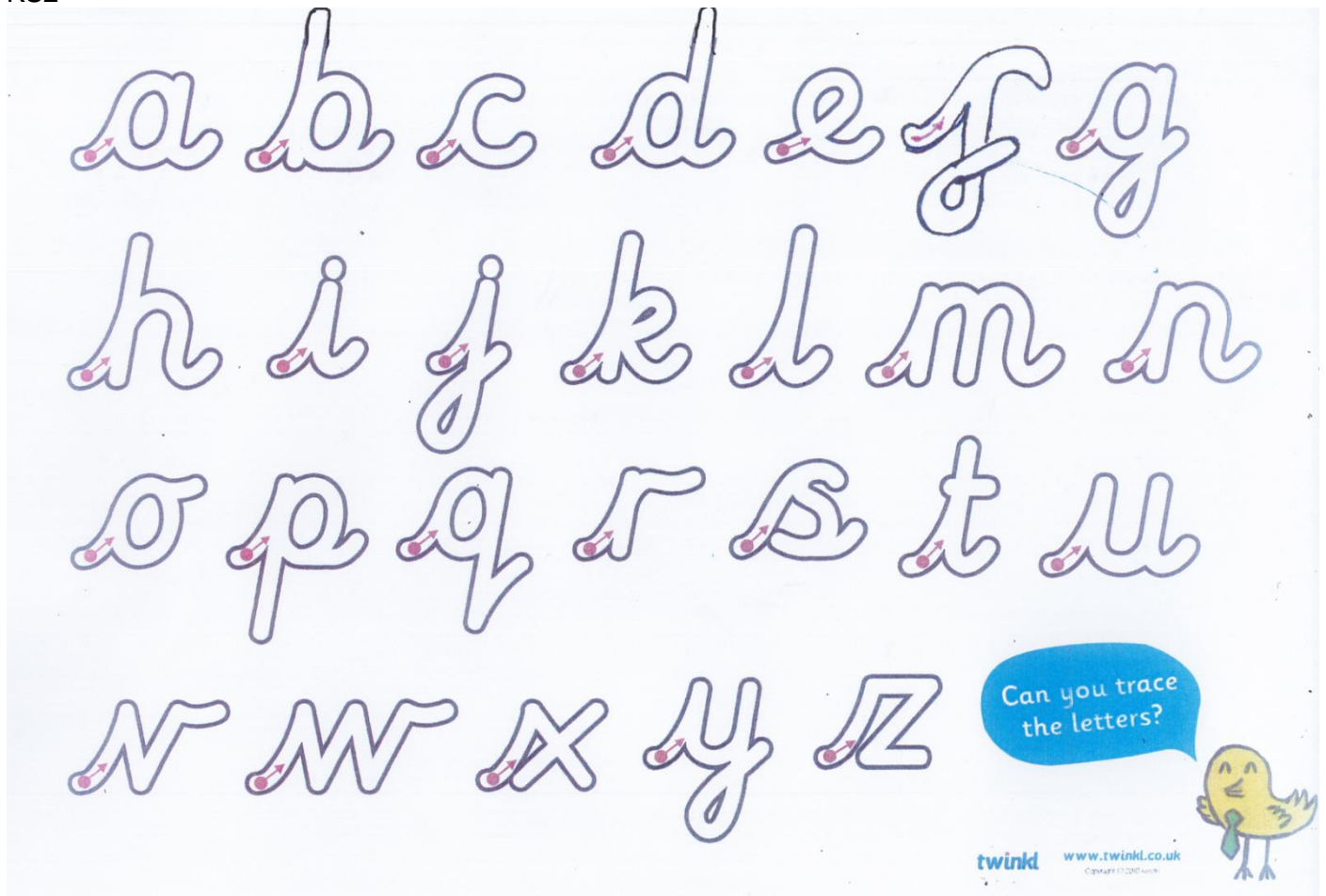
Please note the script we use below and encourage this at home. We also teach the children to hold their pencils correctly - we also need you to support and encourage this at home.



KS1



KS2



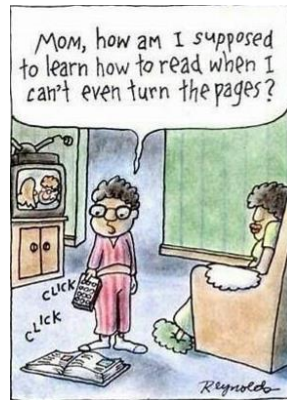
## Mission Moments

Rayleigh in Year 6 is our Mission Hero as she confidently led a visitor on a tour of the school with Mrs Watts. #missionandcourage



## Final Word

How many keys  
can you name that  
DO NOT open doors?



Have a good week!

## St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel

Diocese of Plymouth



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OF TRUSTED CATHOLIC EDUCATION

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